(7) KV, Chittorgarh

(b) School buildings for KV No. 2, Army Jodhpur and KV, Gangapur City are under construction. For KV, BSF, Pokhran construction of school buildings is at the planning stage. For KV No. 2, Suratgarh, KV, Karauli, KV, Dungerpur and KV, Chittorgarh, construction work could not take place for want of suitable land from the State Government.

Quality of higher education

†648. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the standard and quality of higher education in the country is not of world level ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the interest of students in science and maths in the country is declining day by day;

(c) whether the country has lagged behind in comparison to several developed and developing countries of the world, including China and Korea in the matter of research in science and maths and submission of reaearch papers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, together with the view point of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No Sir. Institutions like the Indian Institutes of Technology are of world class standard.

(b) to (d) A Task Force was constituted by the Central Government for strengthening and encouraging basic science research in universities. According to the Report of the Task Force submitted in May, 2005, the enrolment in basic sciences over the years has declined. The recommendations of the Task Force are being implemented by the University Grants Commission through an Empowered Committee. Subject to the finalization of the Eleventh Plan, substantial allocation of resources would help in strengthening of scientific research in universities.

Functioning of foreign educational institutes

†649. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign educational institutes have been permitted to function in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has issued any guidelines to determine the operation and other criterion and fees, etc. of these foreign institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts being made by Government in order to ensure compliance of these guidelines?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.